Collection of tax for maintenance of roads

†2272. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA:
SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that amount for maintenance of roads will be collected from public as tax;

(b) if so, whether transport will become costly due to Government charging Toll Tax and Road Maintenance Tax;

(c) if so, whether this tax will affect the cost of internal products also which will in turn affect poor people of the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) No, Sir. There is no proposal for collecting any Road Maintenance Tax. The user fee (Toll) is levied as per the provisions of National Highways user fee Rules and collected by the National Highway Authority of India. The revenue from such user fee is used for development and maintenance of national highways.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

Maintenance of roads/highways by private developers

2273. SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM:
SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any specific clause about the period of maintenance of roads/ highways after these have been completed and put to use;

(b) if so, the bank guarantees taken from the private developers or part of their final payment is retained for this purpose; and

(c) how many such incidents happened in 2007 and 2008 when private developers did not fulfil their contractual commitments and bank guarantees had to be enforced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) In case of Engineering Procurement Contract (EPC) projects of NHDP, the contractors have to carry out correction of defects besides completion of minor incomplete items during the Defects Liability Period. The maintenance of completed projects is being undertaken through Operation and Maintenance (O&M) contracts. In case of Build Operate and Transfer (Toll or Annuity) projects, it is the responsibility of the concessionaire to maintain the project highway for the entire concession period including construction period.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.